operational charges. However, keeping in view the grave consequences of accidents at unmanned level crossings, Railways have decided to man vulnerable level crossings based on the traffic volume and visibility conditions at unmanned level crossings. Manning of such level crossings is being done progressively by utilizing funds received as Railway's share of Central Road Fund. Besides manning of unmanned level crossings is also done under Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS).

(d) Manning of the unmanned level crossing is planned Zone-wise and not State-wise. A total number of 255 unmanned level crossings is as under:—

Railway	Target	Railway	Target
Central	6	North Western	15
Eastern	0	Southern	34
East Central	4	South Central	33
East Coast	15	South Eastern	7
Northern	50	South East Central	15
North Central	4	South Western	15
North Eastern	20	Western	20
Northeast Frontier	13	West Central	4
TOTAL:			255

Gauge Conversion projects

4007. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the gauge conversion projects pending for completion as on date, State-wise, Zone-wise;

(b) whether any target date has been fixed for the completion of those projects; and

(c) the number of those projects which are likely to be completed by the end of the Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The number of gauge conversion projects State-wise and Zone-wise pending for completion as on date are as under:—

State	Number of Ongoing Projects	Zonal Railways	Number of projects
Andhra Pradesh	5	Central	1
Assam & North East States	5	East Central	4
Bihar	6	East Coast	1
Delhi	1	North Central	1
Gujarat	6	North Eastern	5
Haryana	2	Northeast Frontier	6
Jharkhand	1	North Western	5
Karnataka	4	South Central	5
Kerala	1	South East Central	2
Madhya Pradesh	2	South Eastern	3
Maharashtra	7	Southern	7
Orissa	2	Souther Western	4
Rajasthan	5	Western	6
Tamil Nadu	7		
Uttar Pradesh	6		
Uttranchal	1		
West Bengal	3		
TOTAL:	64*		50

Note:- *Number of ongoing projects pending for completion which fall in more than one State have been shown in each State.

(b) and (c) Targets for completion of projects/sections are fixed on year-to-year basis depending upon availability of resources. During 2005-06, a total of 13 gauge conversion projects (partly/fully) are targeted for completion.

Broad gauge conversion projects in Tamil Nadu

4008. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time-frame fixed for completion of metre gauge conversion into broad gauge conversion projects in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) the physical and financial progress regarding gauge conversion proejcts in the State of Tamil Nadu and the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Details of the gauge conversion projects indicating financial and physical progress with targets date for completion wherever fixed is given as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Anticipated Expenditure upto March, 2005	Outlay 2005-06	Status
1	2	3	4	5
Gauge Conversion				
1.	Madurai-Rameshwaram (161 kms)	56.81	25	On this project, work on Madurai Manamadurai (48 kms) has already been completed. Work on the balance section is in progress and Manamadurai-Mandapam (96 kms) is targeted for completion during 2005-06.